

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MONROV 06418 081907Z

53

ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 L-02 EB-04 INR-05 RSC-01

/037 W

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R 081639Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3725

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONROVIA 6418

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 1165: XGDS-3

TAGS: EINV, EAGR, BDIS, I,US

SUBJECT: POTENTIAL THREAT TO VANPLY CONCESSION COULD PRECIPITATE
USG-GOL CONFRONTATION

1. USUALLY RELIABLE SOURCE IN MINFINANCE CONCESSION
SECRETARIAT INFORMS US THAT THERE MAY BE SOME SERIOUS
PROBLEM WITH THE VANPLY PROJECT.
2. ACCORDING SOURCE, AFRICAN FRUIT COMAPNY (AFC) NOW
OWNED BY MINFIANCE STEPHEN TOLBERT RECEIVED LETTER OF
INTENT FROM THE PRESIDENT (TUBMAN) IN 1968 GRANTING THEM
RIGHTS TO FIVE 100,000 ACRE BLOCKS OF LAND TO BE USED FOR
AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT. THIS LETTER OF INTENT APPARENTLY
HAS NOT BEEN ACTED ON AS OF TWO WEEKS AGO.
3. ALTHOUGH VANPLY CONCESSION AREA WAS REPORTEDLY FULLY
SURVEYED, SEARCHED, ETC., THE FIVE BLOCKS ARE REPOJTEDLY
RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CONCESSION AREA.
4. SOURCE STATES THAT AFC HAS COMMUNICATED EXISTENCE OF
LETTER OF INTENT AND ITS PLANS TO TAKE UP OPTION ON SAME
TO VANPLY LIBERIA GENERAL MANAGER. AFC CURRENTLY AWAITING
REACTION OF VANPLY TO ITS INITIATIVE.
5. HAVE BEEN UNABLE CONFIRM ABOVE WITH VANPLY GENERAL
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MANAGER WHO CURRENTLY IS IN GREENVILLE. HE WILL RETURN

MONROVIA NOV. 11 AND WILL SEEK MEETING WITH HIM TO CLARIFY
SITUATION.

6. EMBASSY BELIEVES VANPLY PROJECT WOULD NOT BE ECONOMICALLY
VIALE WITHOUT THIS KEY AREA. SINCE VANPLY HAS OPIC GUARANTEE
ON ITS INVESTMENT AND FIRM GUARANTEED CONTRACTS WITH GOL
COVERING CONCESSION, CANCELLATION OF MAJOR AREA OF CONCESSION
GRANT COULD PRECIPITATE USG-GOL CONFRONTATION. SUGGEST,
HOWEVER, NO ACTION BE TAKEN BY DEPARTMENT UNTIL WE HAE
DISCUSSED SITUATION WITH VANPLY.
MANFULL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOREIGN INVESTMENT, LAND GRANTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MONROV06418
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740322-0339
From: MONROVIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741159/aaaabydw.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <26 MAR 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POTENTIAL THREAT TO VANPLY CONCESSION COULD PRECIPITATE USG-GOL CONFRONTATION
TAGS: EINV, EAGR, BDIS, US, LI, VANPLY
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005